

Filed for intro on 02/13/95
Senate Bill _____
By _____

House No. HJR0076
By Armstrong

A RESOLUTION to honor Avon Williams Rollins, Sr. for his many years of outstanding service to the Tennessee Valley Authority.

WHEREAS, it is the task of this body to honor those outstanding individuals whose unequalled caliber of meritorious service to this state displays the leadership that is representative of Tennessee's tradition; and

WHEREAS, Avon Williams Rollins, Sr. is one such dynamic individual whose abilities and talents serve as a niche of progress in this nations history; and

WHEREAS, at the forefront of the civil rights movement in the 1960's, Mr. Rollins was co-founder of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee where he admirably served as an assistant to the late Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and as an associate of the late Malcolm X; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Rollins, a native of Knoxville, received his education through the Knoxville school system, where his gifted abilities enabled him to participate in the "Special Studies Program" at Knoxville College. He also attended the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, majoring in engineering; and

WHEREAS, the life of Avon Williams Rollins, Sr. is a chronicle of persecution and perseverance. He has been incarcerated on approximately 31 occasions in his determined effort to dissipate the hardships that African-Americans have endured; and

WHEREAS, former Program Manager of Minority Economic Development for the Tennessee Valley Authority, Mr. Rollins also administered TVA's multi-million dollar interests in minority business ventures; and

WHEREAS, as former Chairman and founder of the TVA Employee Minority Investment Forum, co-founder of the Knoxville Opportunities Industrialization Center, Inc., and Chairman emeritus of the Greater Knoxville Minority Business Bureau, Inc., Mr. Rollins played an integral role in developing minority businesses; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Rollins has received such awards as The Booker T. Washington Award for Leadership, The National Civil Rights Museum Annual Heritage Award, the Minority Business Advocate Award presented by the U.S. Department of Commerce, the National Black Caucus of State Legislators "National Builders Award"; and

WHEREAS, Avon Williams Rollins, Sr. will relinquish the mantle of leadership at the helm of the Tennessee Valley Authority, leaving behind a legacy that will long be remembered; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby commend Avon Williams Rollins, Sr., on his many years of outstanding service and dedication with the Tennessee Valley Authority.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.